



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Marine Safety

Spud Winch Operation and Safety Features

Brian Curtis

Potential Causes of After Spud's Fall

- Mechanical defect
- Brake not properly set
- Miss Megan struck bottom
- Interaction of vessel motion while underway

Spud Winch Operator's Actions

- Secured spuds using only winch foot brakes
- Did not use other available safety devices

Spud Barge Safety

- Using spud securing pins would have prevented accident
- Companies failed to require pinning of spuds

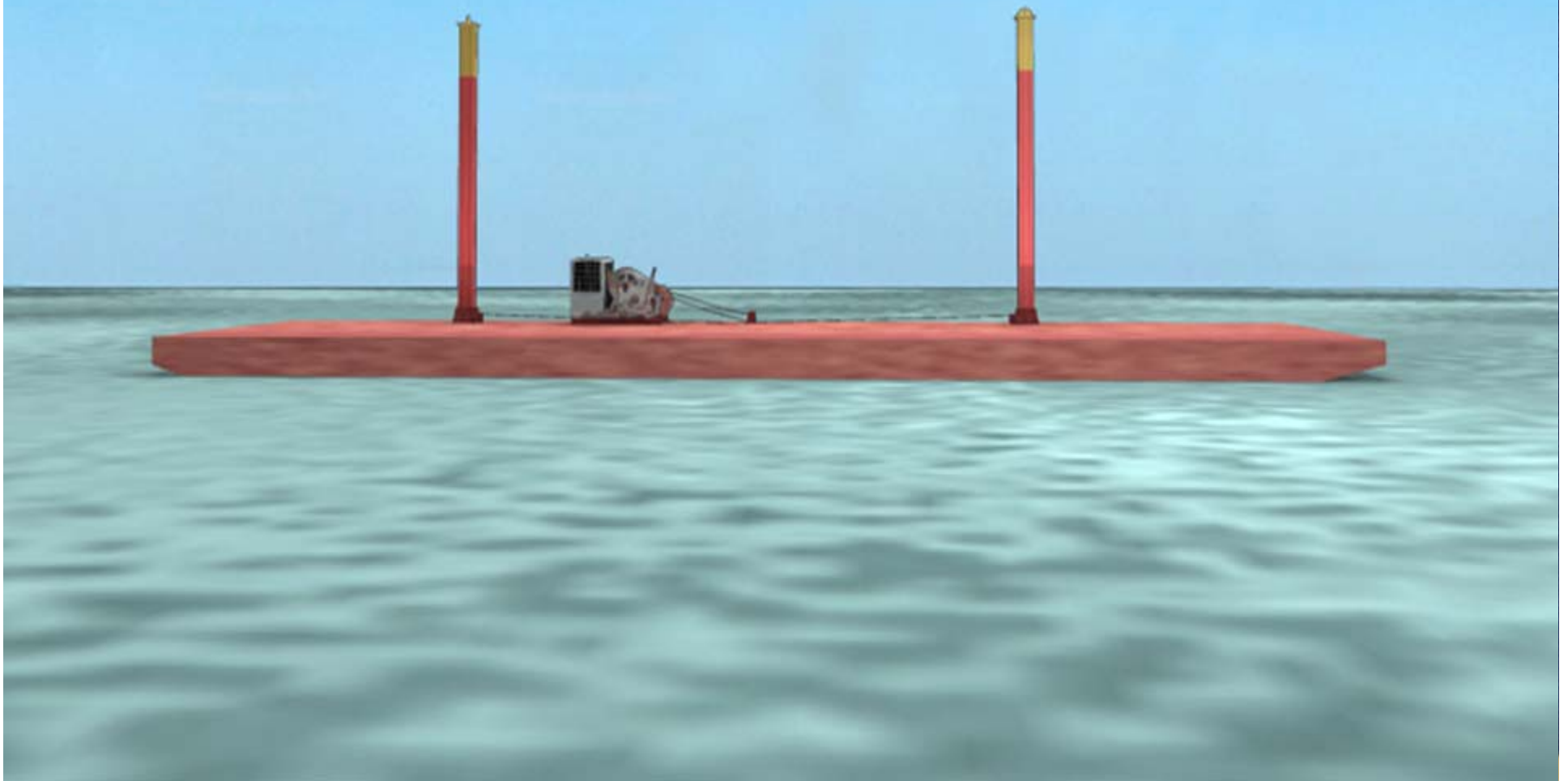


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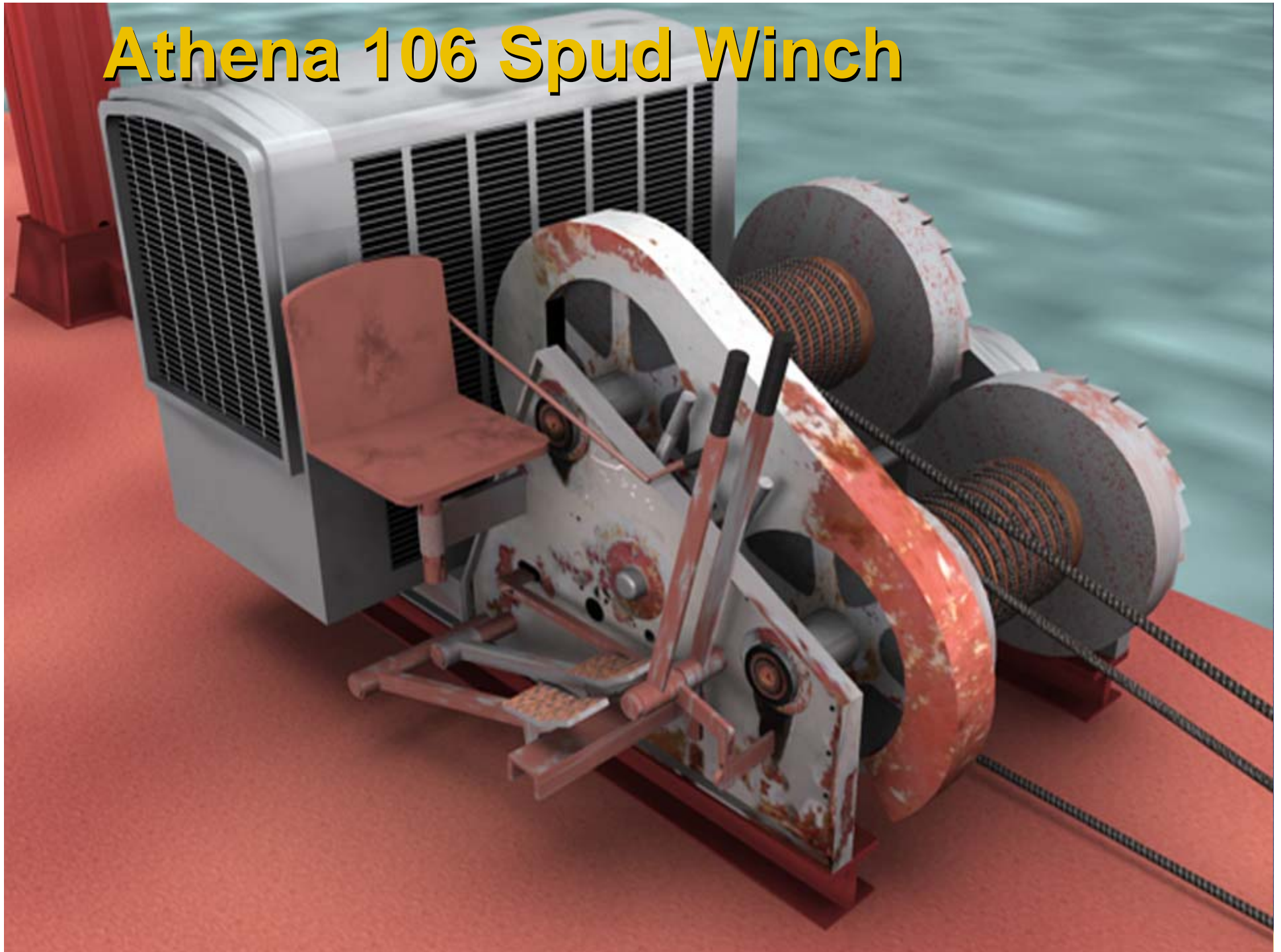
Spud Barge



Barge with winch & Spuds



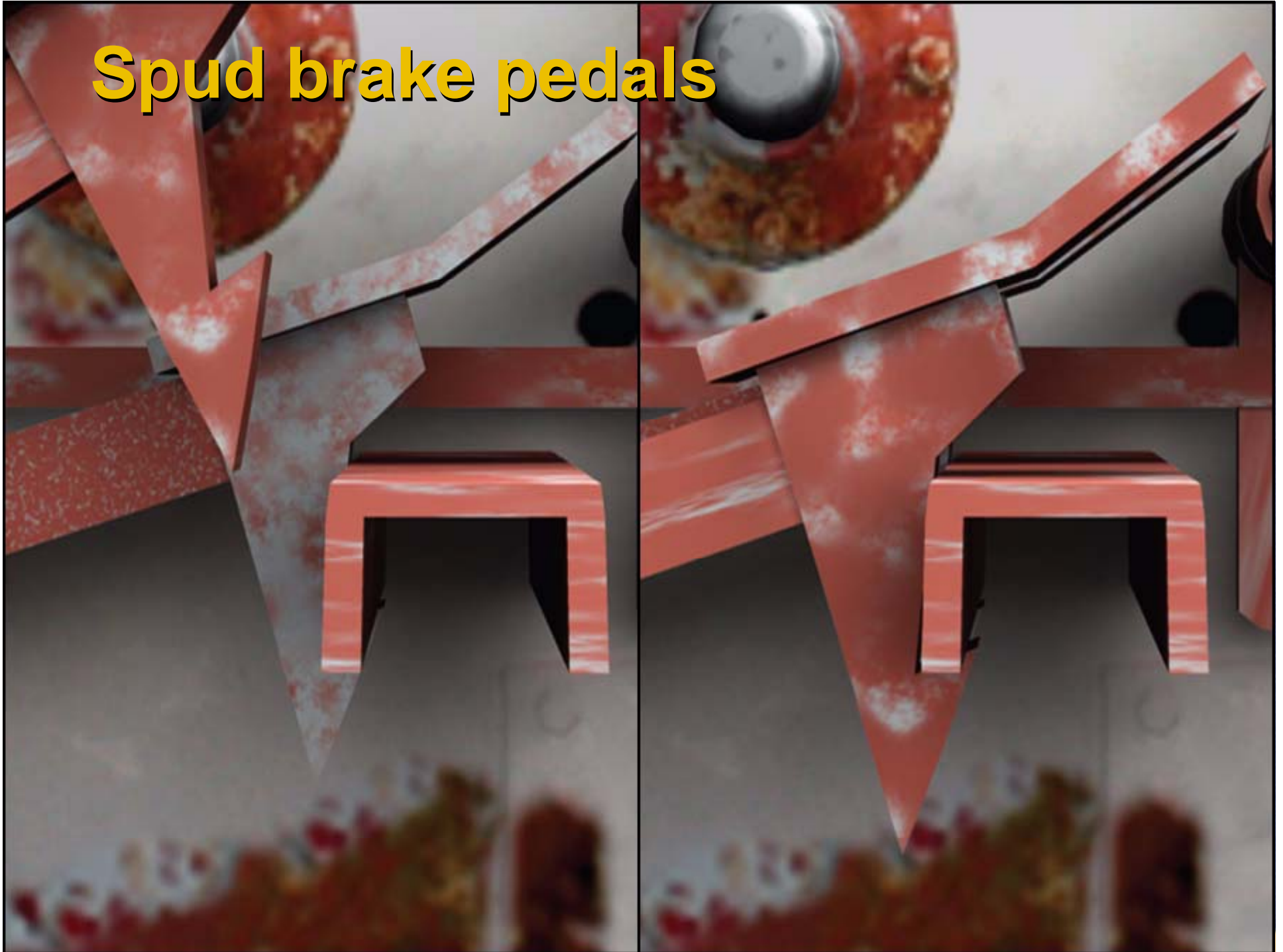
Athena 106 Spud Winch

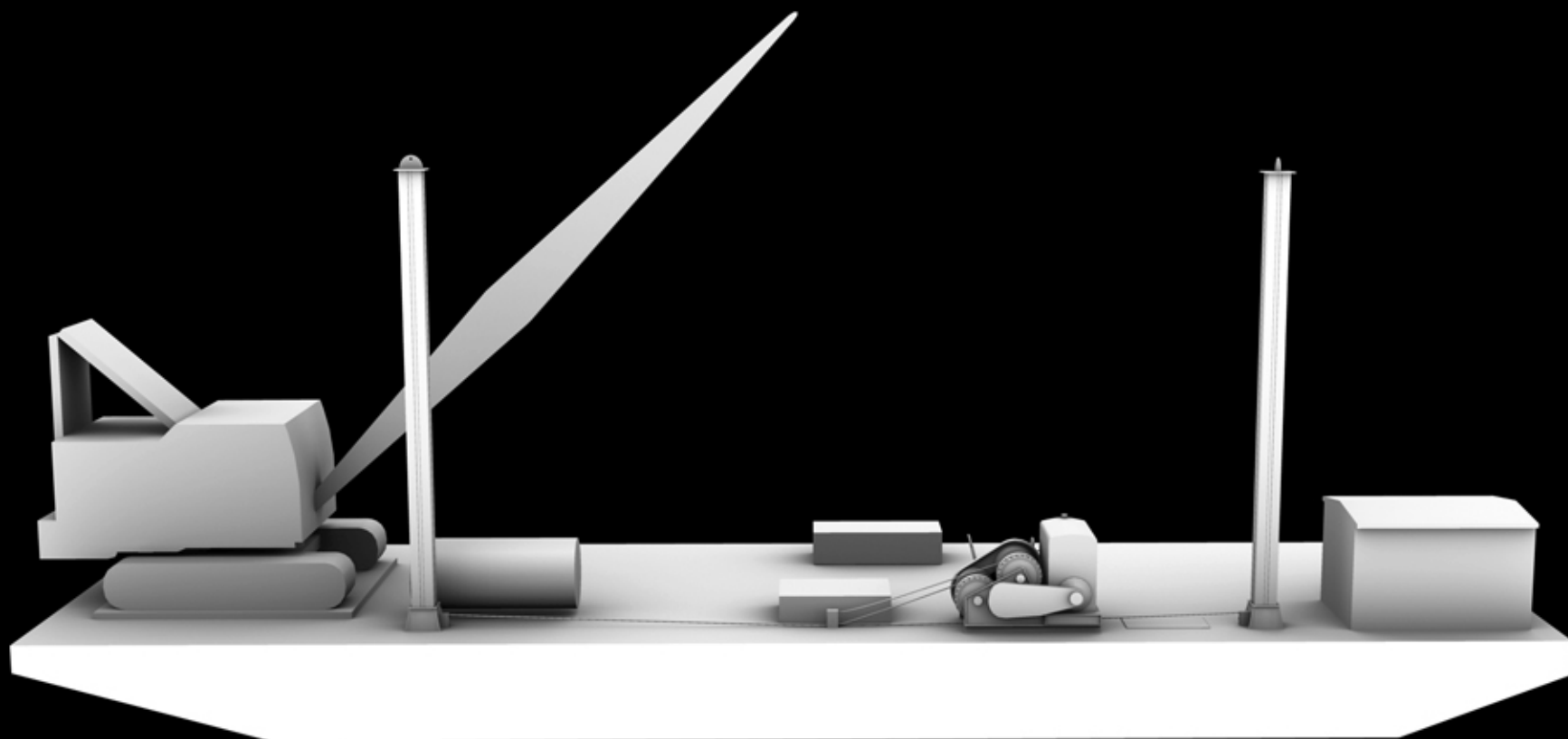


Spud winch pawl



Spud brake pedals





Spud and Pin

